

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

1. This action is responsive to amendment filed on March 1, 2010, where Applicant amended claims 1,36-58. Claims 1-8,36-58 remain pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lance Sadler (reg 38605) on 4/9/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

- 1. (Currently Amended)** A pseudonymous email address generator comprising:

a request interface configured to receive a pseudonymous email address generation request, the request being associated with a requester, the request containing identification information including at least an address associated with the requester; and

a computer-readable storage medium embodying computer-readable instructions that implement a pseudonymous email address creator configured to:

create a pseudonymous email address associated with a mail server in response to the received pseudonymous email address generation request,

associate the pseudonymous email address with an email address,

provide the created pseudonymous email address and its associated email address to the mail server,

cause the created pseudonymous email address to be provided to the requester; and

use the address associated with the requester to correlate monitoring for [[other]] additional pseudonymous email address generation requests to ascertain whether the address associated with the requester is associated with an email address harvesting entity based on said additional pseudonymous email address generation requests having a characteristic similar to a profile established for one or more email address harvesting entities.

36. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:
receiving a request for creating a pseudonymous e-mail address, the request being associated with a requester, the request containing at least an address associated with the requester;

responsive to receiving the request, creating a pseudonymous e-mail address;

associating the pseudonymous e-mail address with an e-mail address;

Art Unit: 2457

causing communication of the pseudonymous e-mail address to the requester;

storing the address associated with the requester and the associated pseudonymous e-mail address; and

using the address associated with the requester to monitor additional incoming requests for creating additional pseudonymous e-mail addresses to ascertain whether the address associated with the requester is associated with an email address harvesting entity based on said additional incoming requests having a characteristic similar to a profile established for one or more email address harvesting entities.

47. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture including a computer-readable storage medium having instructions stored thereon that, responsive to execution by a computing device, cause the computing device to perform operations comprising:

receiving a request for creating a pseudonymous e-mail address, the request being associated with a requester, the request containing at least an address associated with the requester;

responsive to receiving the request, creating a pseudonymous e-mail address;

associating the pseudonymous e-mail address with an e-mail address;

causing communication of the pseudonymous e-mail address to the requester;

storing the address associated with the requester with the associated pseudonymous e-mail address; and

Art Unit: 2457

using the address associated with the requester to monitor additional incoming requests for pseudonymous e-mail addresses to ascertain whether the address associated with the requester is associated with an email address harvesting entity based on said additional incoming requests having a characteristic similar to a profile established for one or more email address harvesting entities.

58. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means for receiving a request for creating a pseudonymous e-mail address, the request being associated with a requester, the request containing at least an address associated with the requester;

means for responsive to receiving the request, creating a pseudonymous e-mail address;

means for associating the pseudonymous e-mail address with an e-mail address;

means for causing communication of the pseudonymous e-mail address to the requester;

means for storing the address associated with the requester with the associated pseudonymous e-mail address; and

means for using the address associated with the requester to monitor additional incoming requests for pseudonymous e-mail addresses to ascertain whether the address associated with the requester is associated with an email address harvesting entity based on said

Art Unit: 2457

additional incoming requests having a characteristic similar to a profile established for one or more email address harvesting entities.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-8,36-58 are allowed.
4. For reasons for allowance, see at least page 22 of Applicants remarks filed 3/1/2010.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RAMY M. OSMAN whose telephone number is (571)272-4008. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2457

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ramy M Osman/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2457

April 11, 2010